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第3話

Chapter 3

Though there's nothing wrong with this

YOU CAN DO THAT IN HIGH SCHOOL?
HIS SISTER'S IN UNIVERSITY, SO MAYBE SHE PULLED SOME STRINGS?
SOME PLACES AREN'T AS STRICT WITH AGE CHECKS.
YEAH

WAKE UP!
Smack
UGH...
Oi...
Squeeze...
10 MORE MINUTES, SAKI-NEE...
PFFT!
So lame!
Ahahaha
How cute!

It's fine once in a while
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING...
Oh, welcome back, class rep
~I'm going to head back first~
DID YOU HEAR THAT JUST NOW?
DID HASEGAWA GET IT TOO? YAMATO'S BAD WAKE-UP HABITS.
HE ONLY JUST MAKES IT WITH HIS SISTER WAKING HIM UP IN THE MORNING.

The refreshingly good-looking type
Good at sports and studying
On top of that he was sensible, a practically perfect person
My first impression of Yoshinaga was
HE'S DEFINITELY THE TYPE WHO WOULDN'T SURVIVE ALONE.
He's not walking at all...
YOU SAID IT.
THE MORE YOU KNOW
THE MORE POINTS DISAPPOINTING FOR GIRLS SHOW UP
WELL, I PREFER HIM THIS WAY THOUGH.
Make a strange face!
Stop it!
The bell rang.
OI, CUT THAT OUT ALREADY
THEN LET'S GET SOME OF THAT OUT OF SEKI TOO!
I KNOW, I KNOW! THERE'S NOTHING NICER THAN A DISAPPOINTING GOOD-LOOKING GUY

SERIOUSLY, WAKE UP, YOSHINAGA.
YO
SHI
NA
GA!
WAKE UP, YAMATO!
Smack!
Z
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
FUPU

Grin
THEN I'LL CALL YOU YUIJI TOO.
IS HE ALWAYS LIKE THIS ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW HIM?
ISN'T THAT UNFAIR?
I'M STILL A LAST NAME!
ISN'T THAT DISCRIMINATION?
THERE'S THAT SULKING FACE AGAIN!
YOU REALLY LIKE YOSHINAGA, DON'T YOU!
YOSHINAGA-KUN, CALL HIM BY HIS NAME~
ERM,
NO, IT'S JUST WITH SEKI IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SO IT FEELS STRANGE AND EMBARRASSING
I DON'T WANT TO BE CALLED THAT BY HASEGAWA!
THEN I'LL CALL YOU BY YOUR NAME, KAZUTAKA.
That's your name, right?
SHUT UP, YOU'RE NOISY.
ISN'T THAT DISCRIMINATION?
YOU BOYS ARE SO NOISY, GEEZ...
It's like they have no worries in the world.

HASE-GAWA!
YOU'RE BEING CALLED!
'KAAY
So today
I want you to come shopping with me.
EH.
EH?
COULD IT BE? HASE-GAWA
HAS A GIRL-FRIEND?!
HE DOES.
UWAH, I FEEL LIKE I'VE LOST...

Ahaha!
SORRY.
SORRY.
We got yelled at.
HAHA! WE'RE SO WEAK~

OH, YOU'RE SHARP.
HE STILL SEEMS LIKE THE TYPE WHO LIKES FOOLING AROUND WITH GUY FRIENDS.
BUT IT'S KIND OF SURPRISING
IT'S NOT LIKE YUIJI IS PARTICULARLY POPULAR WITH GIRLS, BUT THE ONES WHO ARE LOOKING NOTICE HIM.
Sigh
I'M A LITTLE WORRIED.
BUT LATELY HE'S BEEN AROUND A LOT, RIGHT?
AT FIRST EVEN I WAS FORGOTTEN QUITE A BIT
THEY STARTED GOING OUT AROUND THE TIME OF THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
Then it's decided!
MAYU-CHAN IS A GIRL HE WAS CLOSE WITH IN OUR GROUP IN 1ST YEAR.
Stare
OI, YOU. ARE YOU LISTENING?

Waves
I'm sorry
I WASN'T.
.....
YOU'RE THE WORST!

Should be more careful
ISN'T IT A BIT... UMM, WAS IT NATSUMI-CHAN? FOR HER TO BE SURROUNDED BY THREE GUYS LIKE THAT...
NO, SHE WAS ACTUALLY TERRIFYINGLY BAD AT MATHS...
THAT DOESN'T MATTER! GIRLS NOTICE THOSE KINDS OF THINGS.
PUTTING YUIJI AND KYOUSUKE ASIDE, YOSHINAGA-KUN'S PRETTY GOOD-LOOKING TOO.
01.

I SAID--
YOU STUDIED FOR THE MIDTERMS IN A FOUR PERSON GROUP, RIGHT?

GIRLS ARE PRETTY TROUBLESOME, HUH...
THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE TROUBLESOME! YOUR STRENGTH IS BEING TESTED HERE!
AND YOU'VE TURNED IT ON ME.

Honestly speaking,

I sometimes do think it's troublesome

There are lots of conversations where I think "So?"

But that's how everyone says girls are

And in the end,

どがっ
Kick
OW
I SAW THAT! I SAW THAT, YOU BASTARD!
PEACE-FUL?
THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT.

SORRY, HASE-GAWA. THIS GUY'S IN A BAD TEMPER FROM FAILING AT A BLIND DATE.
Hasegawa
THAT HURT, IOIOTYAMA!
くお
WHY DOES AN UNPOPULAR GUY LIKE YOU HAVE A GIRL WHILE I DON'T?!

うお
Shout me something
There it is
おおん
What

のしっ
SHUDDUP! LEAVE ME ALONE, IT'S NORMAL, JUST NORMAL
CO-EDS MUST BE SO NICE
I BET YOU SPEND ALL DAY FLIRTING, DON'T YOU? DON'T YOU?

SERIOUSLY?
I FORGOT I BROUGHT A LUNCH-BOX
WHAT SHOULD I DO? I ALREADY BOUGHT TWO
Did I say norma- for?
HERE, YUIJI
HAH? I DON'T NEED IT. AS IF I COULD EAT THAT
I DON'T WANT IT EITHER-
EH, BUT ISN'T IT A WASTE?
AH, YOSHI-NAGA!
DO YOU WANT BREAD? I BOUGHT TOO MUCH
THEN I'LL TAKE IT.
WHICH DO YOU WANT? DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY
"there's yakisoba and melon"
WAIT, YOU'RE NOT FORCING YOURSELF RIGHT?
NAH, I'M NOT
I do sports and all

I'M REALLY HAPPY.
AAH, I SEE.
Become dull to those feelings.
Feeling happy over practically nothing
Having the slightest thing catch ones' eye
I feel like I may have
Blush

YUIJI DEFINITELY SEES ME AS A MIDDLE SCHOOLER, RIGHT?
I DID THINK YOU WERE CUTE.
UWAH
HAHA, I'M JUST KIDDING.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST EXPERIENCING A NORMAL LOVE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, BUT
WHY KYOU-SUKE?
EH?
AH... YEAH,
IT WAS AROUND LAST YEAR'S CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
.....
YAMATO,

Kyousuke's class did a crossdressing cafe for the cultural festival last year.
OH MAN, I'M SO CUTE!
I'D TURN THEM DOWN IMMEDIATELY FOR SURE
RIGHT! IT'S GROSS!
AH, THAT'S NOT TRUE.
I'll just get the girls to put some makeup on me later!
Still a man though.
YEAH YEAH, YOU'RE CUTE, VERY CUTE
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF A GUY ENDED UP CONFESSING TO YOU?
The fastener goes on the other side you know
You have a bath robe or use your sister's clothes
"I'M FINE WITH THAT"
Kyaa
LIKE THAT!
"I'M ACTUALLY A MAN."

I LOVE GIRLS, SO
I DONT INTEND TO MAKE FUN OF THOSE KINDS OF FEELINGS OF LOVE, NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE THEY TAKE.
What's up?
Cause he's a sincere Manjusa!
There it is The man who lives in love.
Shut up!
Yet he still has no girlfriend!
HIS CLASS WAS NEXT DOOR SO I HEARD HIM
THAT LED TO TAKING A MILD INTEREST IN HIM.
AS I NOTICED HIM MORE I STARTED TO THINK HE WAS PRETTY NICE
IT'S NOT LIKE I FELL FOR HIS CROSS-DRESSING FORM.
THAT'S A RELIEF TO HEAR.
That part was worded weirdly

HONGOU LIKES GIRLS, YEAH?
IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE ANY HOPES, BUT
FOLLOWING HIM WITH MY EYES, AND FEELING HAPPY OVER BEING ABLE TO TALK TO HIM.
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT FEELING LIKE THAT
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING THAT I HAD TO GIVE UP, IT ALWAYS ENDS UP LIKE THIS...
ALTHOUGH
THAT'S PROBABLY OBVIOUS.
How many guys that aren't narrow-minded towards gay people
Would go out with someone who confessed to them, I wonder?
The fact he had no hope for himself...
I'M SURPRISED
OR RATHER, I DIDN'T EVEN CONSIDER

Although that face isn't any different from ours

Yamato's reality is so much harsher than ours could ever be...

WE WERE PRETTY GOOD FRIENDS
SO IT WAS JUST LIKE, "WANNA GO OUT?"
Some how,
EH
I JUST CONFESSED WELL... NORMALLY AND THAT WAS IT
I SEE
YOU NEED COURAGE TO CONFESS TO A GIRL, RIGHT? THAT'S IMPRESSIVE
HEY,
HOW DID IT GO FOR YUIJI?
The start
I couldn't say that to Yamato.
Those feelings of being completely helpless to something
Desperation and
Seriousness and
I never had any intentions to treat things halfheartedly, but

WELL THIS IS RARE!
I'M NO GOOD.
I feel like I completely lack them.
I'M JOK-ING!
FINE THEN, I'LL GO GOOF AROUND.
Just how bad am I...
YOU SAY THAT BUT YOU'RE USU-ALLY GOOFING AROUND WITH KYOUSUKE, AREN'T YOU!
THERE'S NO REASON, WE JUST FINISHED EARLIER.
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED FOR YUIJI TO COME PICK ME UP... CON- FESS!
I'M VERY HAPPY!
CRAP
REALLY

I get the feeling t's been a while since 've seen that.

IN A BAD WAY, THAT GUY'S ATTITUDE DOES-N'T CHANGE TOWARDS BOYS OR GIRLS.
HE'S BLUNT, CLEARLY SAYS WHATEVER'S ON HIS MIND AND TAKES THINGS AT HIS OWN PACE
AHAHA.
THAT PART OF THEM MIGHT BE SIMILAR.

BE QUIET, HONGOU
2ND YEARS RETURN 10TH OF AUGUST!
Don't act cool.
IT'S SUMMER BREAK!
NAC-CHAN ...?
Whisper
HASE-GAWA-KUN, DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
HM?
WE'RE NOT YOUNG FOREVER!
YOU'RE GOING ALL OUT FROM THE START, HUH?
Beeeep, Beeeep
YUUJI, LET'S GO TO THE BEACH TO-MORROW!
Haha!
THAT MUST BE NICE. WE HAVE CLUB PRACTICE NEARLY EVERY DAY.
Getting your motorbike licht Shige?
I've saved money!

SEE YOU THEN
LATER
THERE ARE GUYS WHO CHANGE DRAMATICALLY OVER SUMMER BREAK, RIGHT?
THERE ARE-

AAAAH!
IT'S YOSHI-NAGA-KUN!
西条予備校
Saijou Cram School
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! IT'S ME, DO YOU REMEMBER ME? AKIYAMA!
AH, THE GUY WHO GOT HIS FINGERS STUCK IN THE LAST ROUND OF BOWLING.
FORGET THAT PART
とんっ
CAN I SIT NEXT TO YOU?
WAIT, ISN'T YOSHINAGA-KUN IN THE SOCCER CLUB? WHAT ABOUT PRACTICE?
I'M USING MY OFF DAYS FOR PART TIME ATTENDANCE.
SERIOUSLY? THAT'S HARDCORE.
Amazing

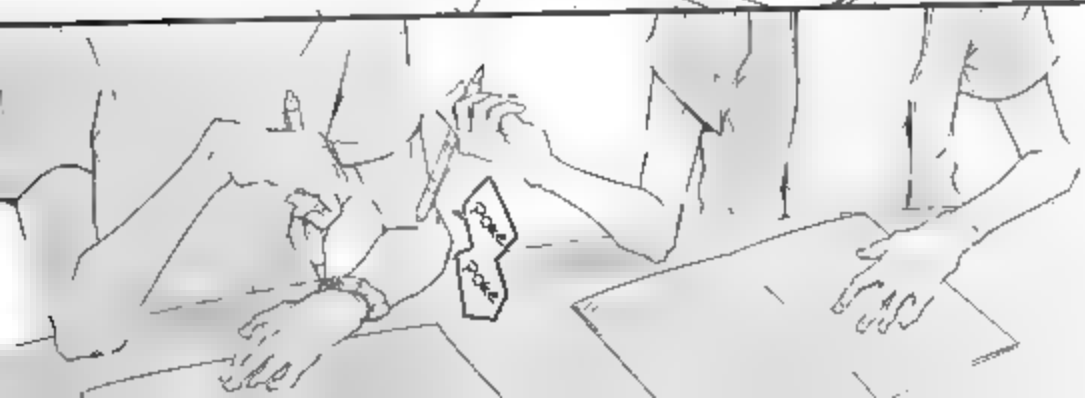
NO WAY, I CONCENTRATE BETTER ALONE.
YOU'RE IN THIS CRAM SCHOOL TOO? LET'S SIT TOGETHER!
WHAT? IF IT ISN'T SAKURA!
MOVE IT, AKIYAMA.
YOU'RE IN THE WAY
YOU'RE SO CUTE UNTIL YOU TALK.
AH, THIS GUY'S FROM THE SAME CLASS AS ME AT SCHOOL
This is Yoshinaga-kun from Toushou!
Even though he's this cool, he somehow doesn't have a girlfriend!
He's one of us!

It's Sakura-chan!
TA-DA!
DID YOU KNOW BOYS' SCHOOL BEAUTY PAGEANTS HAVE BEEN AMAZING LATELY? OURS INCLUDED
THIS GUY IS LAST YEAR'S SECOND PLACE AND WAS TEMPORARILY IDOLISED OVER IT!
WHY DO YOU STILL HAVE IT? YOU'RE SERIOUSLY GROSS!
AH, HERE, YOSHINAGA-KUN
LOOK AT THIS
SHUT UP.
IN OTHER WORDS-- INTRODUCE ME TO SOME GIRLS BEFORE I LOSE MY WAY!
THIS FEELING OF HUNGER AND DESPAIR!
"AH, I... CAN WORK WITH THAT"
DO YOU GET IT?! SOMETHING LIKE THIS CAN MAKE ONE THINK
IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE WANTS TO BE A HOMO, RIGHT?

EH, WHY ARE YOU GOING OVER THERE?
BECAUSE AKIYAMA'S ANNOYING.
I'LL SIT WITH YOU AFTER ALL
WELL, I DEFINITELY DON'T INTEND TO!

NICE TO MEET YOU.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

I DIDN'T WANT TO EITHER...
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE IT WAS A CHOICE
IT'S TRUE
Aah...
It's not like anyone wants to become one, huh...


POKE
POKE

Are you that way?
THANK YOU FOR WAITING!

SO, IS THAT GUY A NEW BOYFRIEND?
PLEASE, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT-- HE'S JUST AN ACQUAINTANCE FROM CRAM SCHOOL
SAKURA, CAN YOU MAKE IT THIS SATURDAY?
AH, YES SATURDAY'S FINE.
THEN I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
ぽかーん
¥600
"SURPRISING" IS UNNECESSARY.
AH, OOPS.
I WORK HERE PART-TIME, IT'S SURPRISINGLY GOOD
...WHY DON'T WE EAT?
I KIND OF HAVE A WAY OF KNOWING
WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE LEFT OUT!
BECAUSE AKIYAMA'S ANNOYING.
EH, WHY?
WHY ARE YOU TWO GOING TO EAT ALONE?
SINCE WHEN WERE YOU TWO SO CLOSE?
I DO FEEL A LITTLE BAD FOR AKIYAMA THOUGH

WELL IT'S NOT LIKE I'M 100% ACCURATE SO YOU CAN RELAX
IF I'M WRONG, DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT SCHOOL? WHERE'S TOUSHOU UP TO RIGHT NOW?

WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING?

THESE KINDS OF THINGS.

...I'M WONDERING WHICH I SHOULD TALK ABOUT.

IN THIS DAY AND AGE
THERE'RE PROBABLY A LOT MORE PEOPLE WHO ARE INDIFFERENT TO GAYS THAN WE THINK.
NO- STOP FOOLING AROUND YOU LOT. GEEZ-
WATCHING THIS KIND OF STUFF MIGHT GIVE YOU THE WRONG IDEA BUT
IT ACTUALLY SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING EASILY ACCEPTED THESE DAYS.
IF YOU COMPARE IT TO THE PAST, THE TOLERANCE HAS RISEN AND PREJUDICE FALLEN
BUT NO MATTER HOW MUCH BETTER IT GETS ON A WORLDWIDE SCALE,
IN A CLASS OF JUST 30 PEOPLE, IF EVEN ONE LOUD GUY SAYS "GROSS!" AND THE OTHERS FIND IT FUNNY,
IT'S PRETTY MUCH OVER.
IF YOU MESS UP AS A HIGH SCHOOLER YOU DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO RUN
THAT'S THE KIND OF NARROW WORLD WE'RE LIVING IN RIGHT NOW

I BET YOU THINK I'M OUT, RIGHT?
BOSS KNOWS BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT EVEN I DON'T WANT TO BE FOUND OUT AT SCHOOL EITHER.
BUT I ALSO WON'T HIDE MYSELF
BECAUSE YOU'RE MY TYPE.
I WON'T DO ANYTHING BAD TO YOU. I DON'T WANT TO HURT MY OWN SITUATION, SO WHY DON'T YOU LOWER YOUR GUARD A LITTLE?
WHY DID YOU TALK TO ME?
I'M PRETTY HAPPY TO HAVE FOUND SOMEONE ELSE LIKE ME.
THAT'S SIMPLE
YOU THERE, LYING ISN'T GOOD.
This is on the house
DON'T BE FOOLED BY HIM, HE ACTUALLY PREFERS HIS MEN SLIGHTLY MACHO.
WHA- DON'T REVEAL IT TO HIM!
IT'S EMBARRASSING
WELL, IT WAS JUST A LITTLE BIT OF MY OPINION
MY INSIGHT ON THINGS
YOU CAN DISCUSS IT WITH SOMEONE YOU TRUST

GIVE ME YOUR NUMBER, YOSHINAGA.
OKAY, THIS'S THE LAST ONE!
EEEH IS IT ALREADY OVER?
ISN'T THE NAME "SUPER THICK MAX" KIND OF BAD THOUGH?
IN AN EROTIC WAY!
はは,
GO BUY SOME MORE-
NO MONEY!
STOP IT YOU GUYS!
AH, THERE ARE SPARKLERS LEFT
け,
RIGHT THEN, FOR THE COUPLE!
UMM.. WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO WITH SO MANY?
THOSE ARE FOR COUPLES THOUGH
TURN IT INTO A HUGE FIREBALL. A FIREBALL-

THEN LET'S MEET UP LATER.
NAH, I'M GONNA CALL IT A NIGHT HERE. SEE YOU.
THEN I'M GOING TO HELP YUIJI.
LET'S GET FOOD.
HEY, WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO ABOUT THE CLEANUP?
AH... THAT
WILL BE LEFT TO HASEGAWA.
I LIVE SOMEWHAT NEARBY SO I'LL TAKE IT HOME.
LIKE THAT!

ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
SAY, YUIJI.
YOU'VE BEEN DOING A LOT FOR ME LATELY
IT'S VERY KIND OF YOU
HMM?

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT FORCING YOURSELF?
...WELL, YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M SOMEWHAT FORCING MYSELF
HOT!
STUPID
YOU COULD WORRY A LITTLE.

じわ…
…WHAT'S WITH THAT? AT LEAST FEEL A LITTLE BAD ABOUT IT.
HOW INFURIATING…
ぎゅっ
WHA- THERE'S NOTHING TO CRY ABOUT, RIGHT!
LISTEN TO THE CONTIN- UATION, OKAY?
IN MY OPINION, I'M FORCING MYSELF IN A POSITIVE WAY
I THOUGHT THAT JUST SAYING I LIKE YOU WASN'T QUITE ENOUGH
THAT TO MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTOOD I HAD TO TREASURE YOU PROPERLY
AAAH CRAP THIS S WHAT I EMBAR- MEAN IS, RASSING SORRY FOR EVERY- THING
..HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING? NEMOTO?
ぽん
MAYU...
HUH?

MA
YU
IS WHAT YOU SHOULD BE CALLING ME! HOW LONG AM I GOING TO BE A LAST NAME?
EH? IS THAT RELEVANT RIGHT NOW?
OF COURSE!
IT WAS HARD BECAUSE I MISSED THE RIGHT TIMING
EVEN THOUGH YOU DO IT FOR ALL YOUR MALE FRIENDS IMMEDIATELY!
THAT'S EVEN LESS RELEVANT! AAH, WHATEVER, I'LL CALL YOU BY YOUR NAME THEN
MAYU-YU!
Smack!
YUIJ ALWAYS TRIES TO AVOID THE TOPIC LIKE THAT!
AWW CRAP, WHAT LANDMINE DID I STEP ON
IT MIGHT BE TROUBLESOME AND IT MIGHT BE MORE FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND YOU'VE PROBABLY NOTICED THOSE THINGS AND GET WHAT YOU'RE FEELING
BUT TRY TO UNDERSTAND THE LONELINESS A GIRL FEELS ONCE IN A WHILE!

I'M EXTREMELY UNHAPPY AND WILL BE GOING HOME NOW
BYE BYE!
I SAID I'VE REFLECTED ON IT ALREADY AAAARGH

MAYU!
I'M SORRY
I'LL SEND YOU HOME, SO
LET'S DO THIS FIRST?
パチ
パチ
パチ
パチ
SEE YOU THEN
JR
For some reason she cheered up again
After the spark ers were set off in comp ete silence

"NAC-CHAN"
IT'S SHIBATA-SAN.
Shibata Natsumi
To your right: Right'
Beep
TO THE RIGHT?
Heeey!
SHE'S SERIOUSLY AN ENIGMA
Brr Brr
OH RIGHT, YOU WERE A LOCAL.
HOW DID YOU NOTICE ME?
I'M WAITING FOR MY MOM SO I WAS LOOKING OUTSIDE.
ERR, I KIND OF CALLED OUT TO YOU WITHOUT THINKING, BUT IS IT OKAY TO DO THIS TO A GUY WITH A GIRL-FRIEND?
A NATURAL BORN?
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE TOO SLOW FOR THAT?
SHE KNOWS SHIBATA-SAN IS A STUDY FRIEND ANYWAY
すすす
WHAT NOW?
?

GIRLS...
AAH CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
I GOT REALLY BADLY SCOLDED FOR SOMETHING I DIDN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND. BUT WHAT WAS THAT? IS THAT NORMAL?
EH?
AHAHA... THIS SORT OF STUFF IS KINDA DIFFICULT FOR ME, I'M NO GOOD AT IT
I'M SURE IT'S MUCH MORE COMPLICATED FOR GIRLS.
UMM.. I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A RULE FOR IT, BUT
I'VE HEARD THAT YOU CAN SNAP OVER THE SMALLEST THING IF YOU KEEP EVERYTHING BOTTLED UP.
IT'S PRETTY HARD COMPLAINING ABOUT THINGS TO THE PERSON YOU LIKE, SINCE YOU DON'T WANT THEM TO HATE YOU
BUT TO BE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT ANYTHING WITH THEM IS THE IDEAL.
IT'S PROBABLY UP TO HASEGAWA-KUN WHETHER IT GOES IN A GOOD OR BAD DIRECTION.
...I SEE, THANK YOU.
I KIND OF GET WHY YAMATO LIKES BEING WITH SHIBATA-SAN NOW.

LET'S PROTECT YAMATO'S PEACE TOGETHER~
THIS GIRL REALLY LIKES YAMATO
YEAH, BUT THIS IS JUST FOR A LITTLE BIT OF INSURANCE
YAMATO DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE'D LIKE IT
AH, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT, THAT THING YOU MENTIONED BEFORE SUMMER VACATION?
IF IT WAS JUST ME YAMATO WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING IT, BUT WITH HASEGAWA-KUN ON HIS SIDE HE'D HAVE A BETTER SENSE OF REALITY, RIGHT?
I'M A LITLE JEALOUS
IT'S LIKE I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FEEL COMPASSION ANYMORE.
At first it was like, "I want to do this for you" and "I want to do that for you,"-but
Before I realised it it had turned to "I have to do this for them" and "I have to do that for them"
How do . return to before?

I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING
A LITTLE OFF WITH THAT...
We got along well
Yaaaay!
NEMOTO HAS A CUTE FACE BUT HER HARSH PERSONALITY RUINS IT.
THANK YOU FOR THE UNNEEDED EVALUATION
I LIKE HER HONESTY HOW IT IS THOUGH
OH, HOW RARE COMING FROM HASEGAWA!
NO I'M NOT!
AAH, THIS GIRL'S BLUSHING!
YOU TWO SHOULD GO OUT WITH EACH OTHER.
YOU'RE SO SIMILAR YOU'D MAKE A PERFECTLY EVIL PAIR!
It was fun being together
And
Gyahaha!
See!
OI!

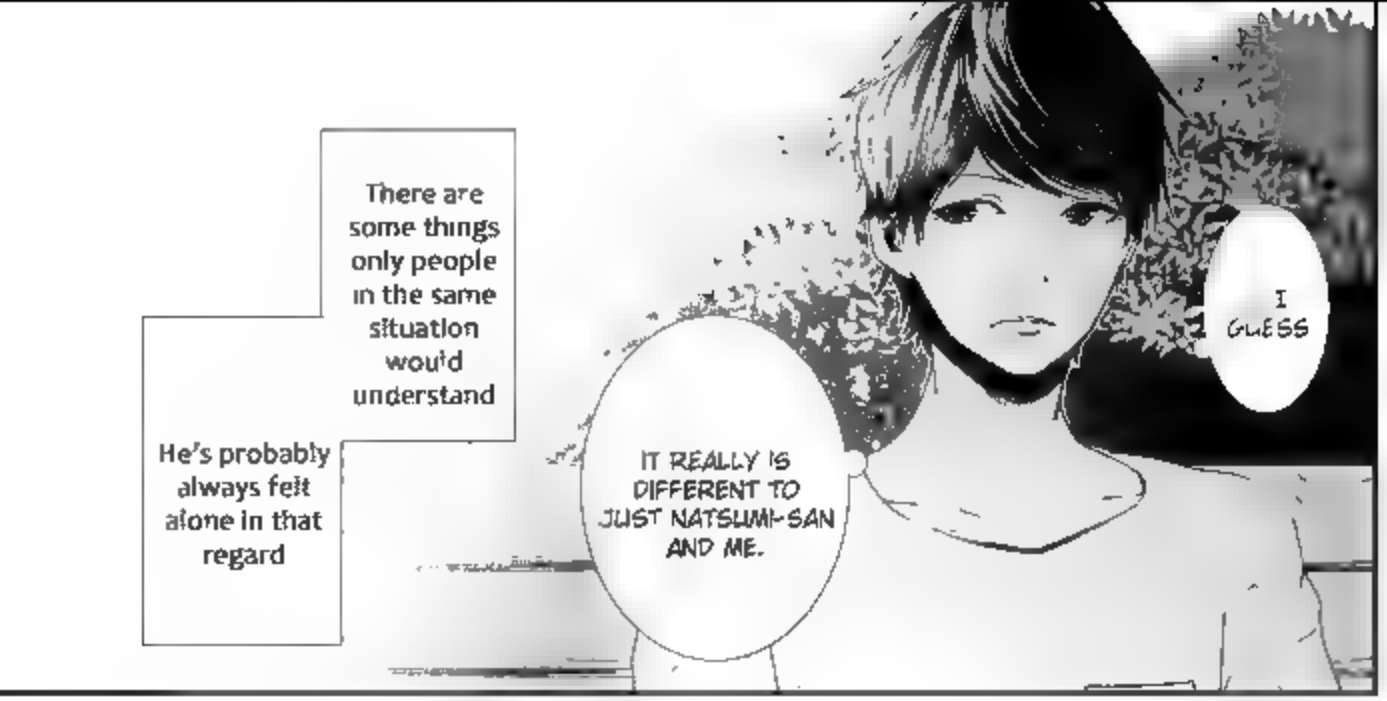
I'm just winging it as I go but

Yamato doesn't lie about his feelings so he gets troubled

Yoshinaga Yamato
Are you free right now?
HEY
SORRY, CLASS RAN LATE.
A PHONE CALL WOULD'VE WORKED TOO
IT'S FINE, I WAS JUST IN THE AREA ANYWAY
AH, I HAVEN'T DINNER YET, DO YOU MIND IF I EAT?
NAH. 'S THAT ENOUGH THOUGH?
NOT AT ALL. I'LL EAT MORE ONCE I GET HOME
I'M JUST SO HUNGRY RIGHT NOW.
HERE, HAVE SOME JUICE.
Haha
THANK YOU

HM?
PROBABLY BECAUSE IT'S ALWAYS QUIET
...FOR SOME REASON, BEING NEXT TO HIM IS RELAXING
AH
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
OH, I
MET SOMEONE WHO'S ALSO GAY
...SERIOUSLY?
YUP, I WAS IMMEDIATELY SEEN THROUGH
He said he can tell those kinds of things
I COULD HAVE DENIED IT AND HE EVEN GAVE ME A CHANCE TO DO SO, BUT
I KIND OF JUST

BUT THERE JUST WASN'T A SENSE OF REALITY
THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT WAYS OF THINKING AND LOTS TO SYMPATHISE WITH
THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE IN LOVE WITH THE SAME SEX ON THE INTERNET, YEAH?
WANTED TO TRY TALK TO SOMEONE.
AND ON TOP OF THAT, HE WAS A HIGH SCHOOLER JUST LIKE ME AND COMPLETELY USED TO IT
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE MET AN ACTUAL ONE
IT REALLY WAS A COMFORT...
I WAS RELIEVED THAT THERE WAS SOMEONE ELSE.
AT FIRST I THOUGHT "OH CRAP," BUT


There are some things only people in the same situation would understand
He's probably always felt alone in that regard
IT REALLY IS DIFFERENT TO JUST NATSUMI-SAN AND ME.
I GUESS

Yamato's world will probably slowly expand from here

don't know how it'll turn out, but
I'M SORRY
EVEN THOUGH I PANICKED SO MUCH WHEN YUIJI FOUND OUT, THIS TIME I LET IT OUT SO EASILY
NAH. I KIND OF GET HOW YOU FEEL.

Even if I slowly start to get the idea, it's not like I can complete y understand it

But putting that aside for now, I can at least hear him out whenever

If he's troubled then I want to help

I think good that's enough from me
THOSE KINDS OF THINGS FROM YUUJI ARE ALSO A GREAT COMFORT
ARE YOU THINKING OF GOING OVER-SEAS IN THE FUTURE?
EH?
SINCE YAMATO'S GOOD AT ENGLISH IF IT'S IN OVERSEAS YOU COULD EVEN GET MARRIED SO I WAS WONDERING IF THAT WAS THE CASE.
(Although it might not be in English country)
AH, I HAVE MORNING PRACTICE TOMORROW
SOMEHOW TODAY WAS REEEALLY TIRING, LET'S GO HOME
Yawn
Yawn
COVER YOUR MOUTH
YOU'RE REALLY WORKING HARD, WHAT WITH CRAM SCHOOL AND CLUB ACTIVITIES.

BUT I FEEL REALLY BAD FOR MY PARENTS.
I DON'T THINK I CAN OUTRIGHT TELL THEM THAT THIS IS MY LIFE RIGHT NOW.
THAT'S WHY I SHOULD AT LEAST DO WHAT I CAN IN STUDY AND SPORTS TO MAKE IT UP TO THEM
AH... I DON'T REALLY CARE FOR THAT, IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME IF IT'S NOT OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED
JUST HAVING SOMEONE BY MY SIDE IS ENOUGH FOR ME.
IF I DID THAT THEN MAYBE I WON'T BE AS EMBARRASSED OF MYSELF
NEKO?
IT'S ONLY A TEMPORARY PEACE OF MIND THOUGH.
BESIDES, EVEN IF I WENT OVERSEAS PEOPLE WOULD ONLY BE INTERESTED IN ME AS A NEKO, AND THAT'S A BIT

HMM, SO YOU'RE THAT ONE THEN?
YEAH.
BUT GIRLS ARE NO GOOD?
YEAH.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT, UMM.. IT MEANS THE GIRL'S ROLE
AAH, COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE SEEN THAT ON THE NET SOMEWHERE, WHAT WAS THE OPPOSITE AGAIN?
IT'S TACHI
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY MYSELF
RATHER THAN SAYING GIRLS ARE NO GOOD
IT'S MORE LIKE THE ONES I WANT TO EMBRACE ARE GUYS
I LIKE MEN.
.....

Somehow,
that was
the first time
I've heard
Yamato declare
It so clearly

It felt
strangely
raw

WAS THAT GROSS?
JUST A LITTLE BIT.
HOW HONEST.
BUT I COULD STILL TOTALLY HUG YOU NORMALLY AFTER HEARING THAT.
THANKS.
I COULD TOTALLY GIVE YUIJI OR SEKI A NORMAL HUG TOO.
Haha
THEN SHALL WE GO FOR IT?
SURE, THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANTED
READY~
HERE GOES!
むぎゅー

WHAT IS THIS
SORRY, I LIED, IT'S KIND OF EMBARRASSING AFTER ALL
I AM TOO, SO ISN'T THAT NORMAL?
そうなの？
IS THAT SO?

Yupi
We must look like idiots~
Yamato is complicated and really awkward
I know it won't go so easily but
But even so he's probably doing his best
Somehow,
I think it would be nice if he ends up happy.

こいものがたり① LOVE STORIES

BIRZ COMICS RUTILE COLLECTION

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If you paid for this you're an idiot
If you're making money off this you suck

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Character introduction 3
• キャラクター紹介③ •